

# CHAMPIONS CHATTER



FIRST QUARTER, 2007

## SCOTTSDALE/ALLEN COUNTY FAITH COALITION

### BUILDING BRIDGES: *HOW A COMMUNITY OF CHURCHES FORMED A COALITION*

By Lesa Bridges, Coordinator, Allen County Drug-Free Communities Grant

When the Allen County KY-ASAP Local Board participated in the CADCA Greenhouse Project to determine readiness to address substance abuse issues in the community, several protective factors were identified. One of those factors was the extensive faith community. Although Allen County is a predominantly rural area with approximately 18,000 residents, it boasts over 100 churches or congregations. Greenhouse participants recognized that the faith community was an invaluable and yet unutilized resource.

According to the 2004 KIP Survey, 55% of 10th grade students in Allen County reported alcohol use during the past 30 days. However, 59% of these same students reported weekly religious participation. Consequently, the board included contact with the faith community among the activities outlined in the Allen County Drug Free Community Grant Support Program Coalition to reduce alcohol, tobacco and other drug use. Specifically, the DFC Grant program required the KY-ASAP Board to reach out to five churches or congregations.

Rather than approach individual churches, the board decided to conduct a retreat and invite all pastors and church leaders in the county. On August 9, 2005 representatives from 30 churches attended a meeting at the Barren River Lodge in Lucas, Kentucky.

The program, entitled *Building Fences, A Faith-Based Initiative* included an overview of the KIP Survey results demonstrating substance abuse among Allen County students as well as information on prevention and treatment. Most of the attendees were unaware of the nature and extent of alcohol, tobacco and other drug use in the community.

Upon hearing the statistics regarding substance abuse among Allen County youth, the conversation evolved into what individual congregations could do. Attendees were asked to consider various levels of commitment ranging from messages from the pulpit to bulletin boards, training and creation of substance abuse ministries. On August 22, 2005 the KY-ASAP Board sponsored a community training and celebration to disseminate information on KY-ASAP, the Drug-Free Communities Grant and local initiatives. Attendees were asked to identify areas of interest and formed workgroups to brainstorm the issues.

Nine attendees signed up for the Faith Based Workgroup. The faith work group held its first monthly meeting in September 2005. It was immediately evident that this group of dedicated individuals was ready to mobilize the faith community. In January 2006, with the blessing of the Allen County KY-ASAP Local Board, the faith coalition formed a separate coalition. Members elected officers, elected a board

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## Building Bridges, continued

of directors, drafted a mission statement and began working on a logic model. In order to secure funding for the coalition, the members drafted articles of incorporation and filed them with the Secretary of State. In anticipation of hiring administrative staff, the coalition obtained a Dunn and Bradstreet number and a federal Employee Identification Number.

The first order of business was to secure operating capital. Director Shane Britt immediately obtained start-up funding by submitting applications to Champions for a Drug-free Kentucky for \$2,000.00 in start-up funds. The coalition also submitted an application to the United Way of Southern Kentucky to fund a part-time Coordinator.

One of the coalition's first steps toward increasing community awareness of substance abuse issues included offering the Faith Partners Substance Abuse Ministry Training. Representatives from nineteen churches and congregations participated in the three-part program for clergy and ministry team leaders. The coalition also partnered with the Allen County Health Department to offer *The Power Within*, Tobacco Education Training to church youth groups. In addition, the coalition assisted three area youth groups successful applications for Kentucky Youth Empowerment (Kentucky YES!) grants.

In the coming months the coalition plans to collaborate with the KY-ASAP Local Board, Community Development Alliance, local churches and businesses to increase substance abuse awareness.



Rev. Shane Britt, Lesa Bridges and Jeff Rice, Scottsville/Allen County Faith Coalition, accept award from former Governor Martha Layne Collins.

## Interesting Facts

In 2005, about 168 million adults aged 18 or older (78.1%) reported that religious beliefs are a very important part of their lives, 75.1% reported that religious beliefs influence how they make decisions in their lives and 30.8% attended religious services 25 times or more in the past year.

Adults who attended religious services 25 times or more in the past year were less likely to have used cigarettes, alcohol, or illicit drugs in the past month than those who attended religious services fewer than 25 times.

About 6.1% of the adults who reported that religious beliefs are a very important part of their lives used illicit drugs in the past month compared with 14.3% of adults who reported that religious beliefs are not an very important part of their lives.

*From the Office of Applied Studies, Religious Involvement and Substance Use Among Adults, SAMHSA*

### Danville Youth in Action

Small town YES Group makes a difference in their community!!

By Donna Wiesenbahn, Bluegrass RPC

The *Youth in Action* group of Danville High School took it upon themselves to spread the word about alcohol and tobacco use in Boyle County. "We think teens in Danville should be aware that there are so many more things they can do with their lives other than drinking and smoking," said Maggie Tirey, 15.

The students went about this process first with their own education and then the desire to educate the community. The roots of the successful program began in the fall of 2006, with information from the Bruce Talbot "Broken Windows" training. When the group learned of the positive effects of a Social Host Ordinance coupled with stricter enforcement of youth tobacco access laws, the *Youth in Action* group and *Teens Against Tobacco Use* group decided it was important to make key community leaders aware of these issues. Research presented at the training indicated that support of the two initiatives could lead to reduced youth substance abuse in the Danville and Boyle County communities.

The students began a two month planning process to accomplish the goal of educating key leaders, including working out all the details for the first annual Drug and Crime Prevention Luncheon. They compiled the invitation list, designed invitations, created table decorations decided on a menu and put together the PowerPoint presentation, based on local KIP data and the 40 Developmental Assets Survey data. This presentation highlighted areas of concern for the community, as well as solicited support for the two main initiatives of a social host ordinance and stricter tobacco youth access enforcement. The students also invited local news media to cover the event. Tara McGuire from MADD Kentucky collaborated by providing plaques and certificates recognizing local leaders. Tom Bryant, Bluegrass Prevention Center, Sharon Faul, Beacon Youth Services Center and Amy Griffieth, Danville/Boyle County Drug Free Communities, supported the program.



Danville Youth in Action: Nikki McCormack, Susan Combs, Maggie Tirey, Mary Jo Stanley, Erica Knight, Katie Strey, Christina Stallman, Ursula Gonifei and Justin Faul, in front.



The presentation was well received by the community and the youth have been asked to share their research and findings with the local Kiwanis and Rotary service clubs. The Isaiah House, a local drug treatment

program, has also expressed interest in a collaborative awareness campaign scheduled for later in 2007.

Other important results are already forthcoming. The first draft of a Social Host Ordinance is being reviewed by the Boyle County Fiscal Court and will then move to the city commission. Last but not least, local law enforcement agencies as well as some key county and city officials have expressed their support for stricter enforcement of youth tobacco access laws. The leadership exhibited by the students in this endeavor has only been enhanced by the overwhelming support and approval they experienced as a result of their hard work. They now know they can make a difference in their community.

Funding for this project was provided by a Kentucky YES (Youth Empowerment System) grant through the Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse. Contact Sharon Faul, sponsor, at 859-936-8473 for more information.

**Table 1: Federal Drug Control Spending by Function**  
**FY 2006-FY 2008**  
 (Budget Authority in Millions)

Take Note

Function	FY 2006 Final	FY 2007 Estimate <sup>1</sup>	FY 2008 Request	07 - 08 Change Dollars	Percent
Treatment (w/ Research)	2,941.9	2,943.0	3,042.7	99.7	3.4%
Percent	22.6%	22.4%	23.5%		
Prevention (w/ Research)	1,862.6	1,859.0	1,575.1	-283.9	-15.3%
Percent	14.3%	14.2%	12.2%		
Domestic Law Enforcement	3,474.7	3,597.0	3,652.2	55.2	1.5%
Percent	26.7%	27.4%	28.2%		
Interdiction	3,285.6	3,372.9	3,292.1	-80.8	-2.4%
Percent	25.3%	25.7%	25.4%		
International	1,434.5	1,356.2	1,399.3	43.1	3.2%
Percent	11.0%	10.3%	10.8%		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12,999.2</b>	<b>\$13,128.1</b>	<b>\$12,961.4</b>	<b>-\$166.7</b>	<b>-1.3%</b>

The information in the table above comes from the National Drug Control Strategy.  
 To learn more go to:  
<http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/publications/policy/08budget/>



## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities

Take Note

## Resource Summary

	Budget Authority (in Millions)		
	FY 2006 Final	FY 2007 Estimate	FY 2008 Request
<b>Drug Resources by Function</b>			
Prevention	489.807	524.764	275.000
<b>Total Drug Resources by Function</b>	<b>\$489.807</b>	<b>\$524.764</b>	<b>\$275.000</b>
<b>Drug Resources by Decision Unit</b>			
<b>Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities</b>			
National Programs	143.307	173.122	175.000
<i>Researched-Based Grants to LEAs (non-add)</i>	<i>0.000</i>	<i>30.000</i>	<i>59.000</i>
<i>Safe Schools/Healthy Students (non-add)</i>	<i>79.200</i>	<i>79.200</i>	<i>79.200</i>
<i>Student Drug Testing (non-add)</i>	<i>10.380</i>	<i>10.380</i>	<i>16.850</i>
<i>Student Drug Testing Institute (non-add)</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>1.000</i>
State Grants Program	346.500	351.642	100.000
<b>Total Drug Resources by Decision Unit</b>	<b>\$489.807</b>	<b>\$524.764</b>	<b>\$275.000</b>
<b>Drug Resources Personnel Summary</b>			
Total FTEs (direct only)	—	—	—
<b>Drug Resources as a Percent of Budget</b>			
Total Agency Budget (in billions)	\$56.5	\$56.0	\$56.0
Drug Resources Percentage	0.87%	0.94%	0.49%

To learn more go to:

[http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/publications\\_policy/08budget/](http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/publications_policy/08budget/)



Amy Weber, M.Ed., CPP,  
Director, Northkey Regional Prevention Center

## The Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) in Communities

RPC  
GUEST  
COLUMN

Many prevention professionals across Kentucky have lovingly referred to their participation in the Strategic Prevention Framework training process as "getting SPF'ed". Years of training and systems development by the communities has led us to this place and to this current framework that looks an awful lot like what communities have been doing, although sometimes not in this organized way. Many new "start-up" coalitions, SPF State Incentive Grants, and existing Champions coalitions are beginning to organize their coalitions in this manner to format best practice approaches in their community.

One thing that prevention professionals know about effective prevention strategy is that a *good heart does not equal good outcomes*. This means that what we **THINK** will most effectively work, feels right/good, and is currently most popular is not always effective in preventing overall substance abuse. What we must focus on in our communities is what we **KNOW** works based on prevention research and best practice. Yes, often times there are no programs available for reducing young adult methamphetamine use or middle school inhalant abuse, but there is research that supports best practice strategies and approaches for how to go about prevention efforts in communities.

The Strategic Prevention Framework continually brings us back to our community data and tells us the following: (1) Which is the most problematic in our community: alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs?, (2) Who are the community partners we need more information from?, (3) What is the ability and willingness of the community to get involved in this project right now?, (4) Who is missing from the discussion that needs to be here?

Good outcomes are a product of the best practice approaches and strategies within the Strategic Prevention Framework process. A very important part of that process is incorporating change based on community needs and data. I have heard it said that SPF does not stand for **Same Plan Forever** and I think that is key for communities to keep in mind. The Strategic Prevention Framework process changes and grows based on the community needs, data and evaluation and by using such information to guide your community plan, your projects can and will be successful.

Many sources of federal funding, including the Substance Abuse Prevention Block Grant and the Drug Free Communities Support Program, view the Strategic Prevention Framework as the development guide for communities to address substance abuse. It is imperative for communities in Kentucky to begin to learn and model this framework in their communities in order to effectively prevent substance abuse in their communities.

Confused about the Strategic Prevention Framework process? Every Regional Prevention Center (as operated by the local Mental Health/Mental Retardation Centers) in the state of Kentucky have Certified Prevention Professionals (CPPs) that can share their expertise in the Strategic Prevention Framework and best practice/strategic approaches for targeting alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs in the community.

If you need additional information about Prevention Centers in your area, please contact us at 1-866-213-8739.



### Steps Taken to Combat Illegal Drug Use Working in Edmonson County

By Drew Wollin, Lifeskills Regional Prevention Center

The **Edmonson County Anti-Drug Champions Coalition**, the Edmonson County Sheriff's Department, and Lifeskills Regional Prevention Center have teamed up to tackle a growing problem prevalent throughout the Commonwealth. A tool to help law enforcement officials in the county to locate and investigate possible illegal drug activity has been introduced on February 1, 2007 to the community.

Yellow cards that have been pre-stamped and pre-addressed to the Sheriff's Department are being placed in businesses throughout the county which will allow anonymous reporting of suspicious drug activity. A community member can now report suspicious activity without the fear of being labeled a 'snitch'. It allows those who would not normally come forward to report suspicious activity to law enforcement, and have the freedom to do what they know is right for them, the community, and the county.

"Through small steps, that include the yellow reporting postcards, the community is able to come together and watch out for each other, while at the same time, setting a good example to younger generations. They need to see that the community is against illegal drug use and not allow it to continue to hurt the community, the environment, and the lives of those who we care about," said Lisa Whobrey, chair of the local Anti-Drug Coalition.

"Through this collaborative effort, we are able to help in taking small steps to keep Brownsville and Edmonson County a place we are proud to call home, a place we want this and future generations to grow up in, and a place we want to come home to," Ms. Whobrey said.

On April 11, 2007, it was reported by Sheriff BJ Honeycutt that an anonymous tip card that was mailed in to the Sheriff's Department has led to a methamphetamine related arrest in the county. This not only

shows that our preventive efforts are working in the community but that the community itself is coming together to support this effort and will not tolerate others to hurt the place that they call home. Illegal drug use is an issue that the Anti-Drug Coalition has consistently told the community can be addressed and fixed, and this is a way to show the community that one person truly does make a difference in finding a solution.

Reprinted from the *Gimlet Edmonson News*



Drew Wollin, Lifeskills Regional Prevention Center, Edmonson County Sheriff B.J. Honeycutt and Lisa Whobrey, Edmonson County Anti-Drug Coalition, display yellow cards.

I must admit that I personally measure success in terms of the contributions an individual makes to her or his fellow human beings.

**Margaret Mead**





### Plant the Promise

It's Spring! The red tulips that we planted in October during the Power of One Conference in honor of Red Ribbon Week are blooming! The tulips are planted around the bottom of a redbud tree in front of the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet building. They are quite beautiful and a constant reminder of the sacrifices made by Enrique "Kiki" Camarena and others who have self-



Laurie Dudgeon, ODCP Executive Director, General Norman Arflack, Secretary, Justice and Public Safety Cabinet, Rich Badaracco, Special Agent, DEA and Mrs. Fletcher ceremoniously plant red tulips during the Champions/KY-ASAP "Power of One" Conference, October 2006.



First Lady Glenna Fletcher



Red Ribbon Week introduced Plant the Promise Week, with students at schools across the country planting nearly 500,000 tulip bulbs as a living symbol of their support for a drug-free America and a drug-free world



## HIGHLIGHTS FROM CHAMPIONS FOR A DRUG-FREE KENTUCKY COALITIONS

*Champions Chatter* is a publication of Champions for a Drug-Free Kentucky and the Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy. The purpose of *Champions Chatter* is to disseminate and share information regarding the work of our many volunteers and Regional Prevention Center staff in Kentucky communities.

The mission of Champions is "to promote the prevention of the abuse of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs; and promote the reduction of violence in Kentucky schools and communities."

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It is not enough to understand, or to see clearly. The future will be shaped in the arena of human activity, by those willing to commit their minds and their bodies to the task.

Robert Kennedy

